

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic apparatus comprising:  
a disk device having a head;  
a sensor which detects a fall; and  
5 a control unit configured to control the disk device to move the head to an unload area using a signal which is independent from commands that are processed by the disk device in an order in which they are accepted, when the sensor detects the fall.
- 10 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the device is a magnetic device, and the head is a magnetic head.
3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the signal is a reset signal of an interface standard  
15 with which the disk device complies.
4. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
an independent signal line configured to exchange the signal, and  
20 wherein the control unit transmits the signal to the disk device via the independent signal line.
5. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a shock-absorbing unit which absorbs a shock that acts upon falling from a height  $h$ , when a time  
25 required to move the head to the unload area under the control of the control unit is given by a falling time  $t$ , satisfies an active-time shockproof specification of

the disk device.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a relationship between the falling time  $t$  and the height  $h$  is defined by:

5            $t = (2h/G)^{1/2}$  (G: gravitational acceleration)

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sensor is an agravity sensor using a mechanical switch which is opened in an agravity state.

8. An electronic apparatus comprising:  
10           a main device;  
            a peripheral device with a shockproof unit;  
            a sensor which detects a fall; and  
            a control unit configured to control the  
peripheral device to activate the shockproof unit using  
15           a signal which is independent from commands that are  
processed by the peripheral device in an order in which  
they are accepted from the main device, when the sensor  
detects the fall.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein  
20           the signal is a reset signal of an interface standard  
with which the peripheral device complies.

10. The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

            an independent signal line configured to exchange  
25           the signal other than the various commands with the  
peripheral device, and

            wherein the control unit transmits the signal to

the peripheral device via the independent signal line.

5 11. The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a shock-absorbing unit which absorbs a shock that acts upon falling from a height  $h$ , when a time required until the shockproof unit is activated under the control of the control unit is given by a falling time  $t$ , satisfies an active-time shockproof specification of the peripheral device.

10 12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a relationship between the falling time  $t$  and the height  $h$  is defined by:

$$t = (2h/G)^{1/2} \quad (G: \text{gravitational acceleration})$$

15 13. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the sensor is an agravity sensor using a mechanical switch which is opened in an agravity state.

14. A shockproof method for an electronic apparatus which has a disk device having a head, and a sensor for detecting a fall, comprising:

20 determining whether or not the apparatus is falling; and

controlling the disk device to move the head to an unload area using a signal which is independent from commands that are processed by the disk device in an order in which they are accepted, when the apparatus is falling.

25 15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the signal is a reset signal of an interface standard with

which the disk device complies.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the electronic apparatus further has an independent signal line configured to exchange a signal, and

5 the controlling includes transmitting the signal to the disk device via the independent signal line.

17. A shockproof method for an electronic apparatus which has a main device, a peripheral device with a shockproof unit, and a sensor for detecting  
10 a fall, comprising:

determining whether or not the apparatus is falling; and

controlling the peripheral device to activate the shockproof unit using a signal which is independent  
15 from commands that are processed by the peripheral device in an order in which they are accepted from the main device, when the apparatus is falling.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the signal is a reset signal of an interface standard with which the peripheral device complies.  
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19. The method according to claim 17, wherein the electronic apparatus further has an independent signal line configured exchange a signal, and

the controlling includes transmitting the signal  
25 to the peripheral device via the independent signal line.